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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/738,787	12/15/2000	Roger Keith Wiles	40101/00401	4530

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, VAN H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2126

DATE MAILED: 07/15/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/738,787

Applicant(s)
WILES

Examiner
VAN H. NGUYEN

Art Unit
2126



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Dec 15, 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____ 6) ☐ Other:

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DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to the application filed on December 15, 2000. Claims 1-18 are presented for examination.

Claim Objections

2. Claims 10 is objected to because of the following informalities:
"a register of at least" (claim 10, line 4) should be "a register for registering at least"
Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for the purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language; or " (Emphasis added.)

Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by

Whitehead et al. (U.S. 6,085,030).

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As to claim 10, Whitehead teaches an intermediary module (*a component management service 280*; col.7, lines 8-54) for a software package (*applications*; col.7, lines 8-54) for facilitating communication (*manages and enables...distributed throughout the network*; col.4, lines 52) among a plurality of components (*components*; col.4, lines 52) of a computing system (*a computer network*; col.4, lines 52) , comprising:

a register for registering (*registering and locating the software components*; col.4, lines 52/ *a component registry 250*; fig.2) of at least a portion of the components; and

a dispatch component to route a request for a data object received from a first one of the components (*routing of all software component requests from consumers of the network*; col.10, lines 16-58), the dispatch component correlating the requested data object to a second one of the components containing the requested data object, wherein the second component is included in the register (*determine whether the type of the requested component is part of, i.e., registered with, the description repository 410. If the type of the requested component is found in this repository 410, the request is directed to the offer repository 420 where specific instances of that component type are registered*; col.10, lines 16-58).

As to claim 11, Whitehead teaches the dispatch component communicates with a plurality of manageable entities, each of the manageable entities corresponding to one of the registered components and directing a request for a data object contained within the

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corresponding registered component to a location of the requested data object within the registered component (col.10, lines 16-58).

As to claim 12, Whitehead teaches a configuration component containing configuration parameters for the manageable entities; and a utility for generating the manageable entities using the configuration component (col.11, lines 20-32).

As to claim 13, Whitehead teaches the register includes control data relating a plurality of data objects with corresponding ones of the plurality of registered components (col.7, line 55-col.8, line 2).

As to claim 14, Whitehead teaches a system (*a computer network environment 100*; col.6, lines 9-24) for managing communications (*manages and enables...distributed throughout the network*; col.4, lines 52) among a plurality of components (*components*; col.4, lines 52) of a computing system (*a computer network*; col.4, lines 52) comprising:

a consumer component (*component consumer application 210*; fig. 2);

a plurality of producer components (*component administration application 260*; fig.2); and

an intermediary module (*a component management service 280*; col.7, lines 8-54) receiving from the consumer component requests (*requests*; col.25-36) for data objects, wherein, upon receipt of a consumer component request, the intermediary module consults a register (*a component registry 250*; fig.2) to identify a registered one of the producer components in which the data object is contained (*determine whether the type of the*

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requested component is part of, i.e., registered with, the description repository 410. If the type of the requested component is found in this repository 410, the request is directed to the offer repository 420 where specific instances of that component type are registered; col.10, lines 16-58).

As to claim 15, Whitehead teaches the intermediary module communicates with a plurality of manageable entities, each of the manageable entities corresponding to one of the registered components and directing a requests for data object contained within the corresponding registered component to a location of the requested data object within the registered producer component (fig.2).

As to claim 16, a switch is inherent to the system of Whitehead.

As to claim 17, Whitehead teaches the intermediary module receives a plurality of requests from the consumer component including at least one of a request to retrieve a value in the a data object from the producer component, a request to retrieve a value in a next data object of the producer component, a request to set a value in the data object of the producer component, a request to set a read-only value of the data object of the producer component and a request to store a value of the data object in a nonvolatile memory (col.12, lines 4-23).

As to claim 18, Whitehead teaches a hybrid component which, under predetermined conditions, acts as a consumer component and which otherwise acts as a producer component (fig.2).

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As to claim 1, the rejection of claim 10 above is incorporated herein in full.

However, claim 1 further recites “forwarding the request to the second component; fulfilling the request by providing the requested data object to the first component.”

Whitehead teaches forwarding the request to the second component; and fulfilling the request by providing the requested data object to the first component (*The component registry 250 interoperates with the CMS 280 to, inter alia, determine how to bind the requesting application with an appropriate component...Specifically, the CMS 280 first checks the component registry 250 'via paths 9 and 10' to determine if the requested component is available in the offer repository 254. If the component is available, binding information is returned to the requesting consumer application 210 via paths 22 or 23. If the component is not available, the request is forwarded to the object factory 240 via path 11 to activate an object corresponding to the requested component*; col. 7, line 55-col.8, line 14).

As to claim 2, Whitehead teaches the computing system comprises a plurality of devices (*software devices, hardware devices*; col.7, lines 1-3).

As to claim 3, Whitehead teaches the plurality of components includes a producer component (*component administration application 260*; fig.2) and a consumer component (*component consumer application 210*; fig. 2), the producer component fulfilling at least a portion of requests made by the consumer component (col. 7, line 55-col.8, line 14).

As to claim 4, refer to claim 18 above for rejection.

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As to claim 5, Whitehead teaches all of the components reside on a single processor (col.6, lines 26-44).

As to claim 6, refer to claim 17 above for rejection.

As to claim 7, Whitehead teaches the intermediary module performs the correlating step using one of a hash table, a database application and a binary tree (col.14, lines 8-16).

As to claim 8, “the single processor operates a switching device” is inherent to the system of Whitehead.

As to claim 9, Whitehead teaches deleting from the register reference to a deleted component which has been decoupled from the intermediary module (col.14, lines 8-16).

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

-Arunkumar et al.	US 6230193	issued date 05/2001
-Verheecke	US 6163792	issued date 12/2000
-Hyder et al.	US 5983274	issued date 11/1999
-Lam et al.	US 5926636	issued date 06/1999

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- Mendelsohn "Operating Systems for Component Software Environments" IEEE, 1997, pages 49-54.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to VAN H NGUYEN whose telephone number is (703) 306-5971. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8:30AM - 6:00PM. The examiner can also be reached on alternative Friday.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-9000.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

**Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

or fax to:

**(703) 746-7239 (for formal communications intended for entry)
(703) 746-7238 (for After Final communications)
(703) 746-7140 (for informal or draft communications)**

**Van Nguyen
July 10, 2003**



**JOHN FOLLANSBEE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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